DC
SUPERMAN
IN ACTION COMICS
746
$1.95 US
$2.75 CAN
JUL 98
1998
27
IMMONEN
MARZAN, JR.
DIRECT SALES
74611>
7 61941 20001 9

©1996 The Coca-Cola Company "Coca-Cola," the Red Disk Icon and the Contour Bottle design are registered trademarks of The Coca-Cola Company

THIRST

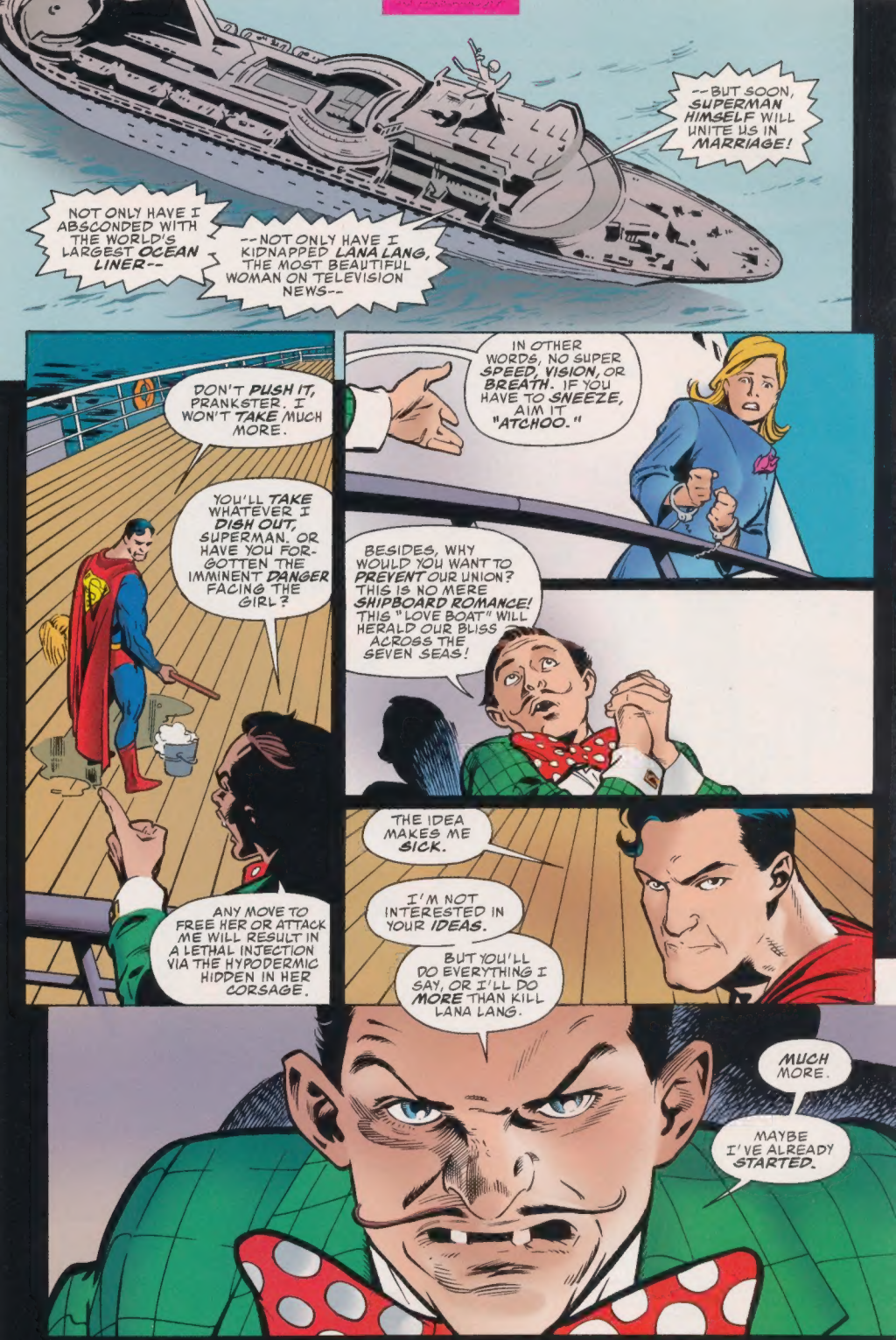
no more

HE LEAPS ACROSS THE HEAVENS WITH THE MAJESTY OF ANCIENT GODS AND POWERS OF A ...
SUPERMAN
Created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER
SO WHY IS HE PERFORMING THE DUTIES OF AN ORDINARY SEAMAN? READ ON, FRIEND, AND FIND OUT...
I'VE DONE IT! I WIN!
THE PRANKSTER IS TRIUMPHANT!
POLYESTERYEAR PART 2
LOVE, SUPERVILLAIN STYLE
WRITER/PENCILLER: STUART IMMONEN
INKER: JOSÉ MARZAN, JR.
LETTERER: BILL OAKLEY
COLORIST: GLENN WHITMORE
SEPS: DIGITAL CHAMELEON
ASST. ED: MAUREEN McTIGUE
LANDLUBBER: JOEY CAVALIERI

ACTION COMICS 746. July, 1998. Published monthly by DC Comics, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to ACTION COMICS, DC Comics Subscriptions, P.O. Box 0528, Baldwin, NY 11510. Annual subscription rate $23.40. Canadian subscribers must add $12.00 for postage and GST. GST # is R125921072. All foreign countries must add $12.00 for postage. U.S. funds only. Copyright © 1998 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. Printed on recyclable paper.
Printed in Canada.

DC COMICS
A DIVISION OF WARNER BROS.–A TIME WARNER ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY

75 YEARS
ENTERTAINING THE WORLD


NOT ONLY HAVE I ABSCONDED WITH THE WORLD'S LARGEST OCEAN LINER--
--NOT ONLY HAVE I KIDNAPPED LANA LANG, THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN ON TELEVISION NEWS--
--BUT SOON, SUPERMAN HIMSELF WILL UNITE US IN MARRIAGE!
DON'T PUSH IT, PRANKSTER. I WON'T TAKE MUCH MORE.
YOU'LL TAKE WHATEVER I DISH OUT, SUPERMAN. OR HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THE IMMINENT DANGER FACING THE GIRL?
ANY MOVE TO FREE HER OR ATTACK ME WILL RESULT IN A LETHAL INJECTION VIA THE HYPODERMIC HIDDEN IN HER CORSAGE.
IN OTHER WORDS, NO SUPER SPEED, VISION, OR BREATH. IF YOU HAVE TO SNEEZE, AIM IT "ATCHOO."
BESIDES, WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO PREVENT OUR UNION? THIS IS NO MERE SHIPBOARD ROMANCE! THIS "LOVE BOAT" WILL HERALD OUR BLISS ACROSS THE SEVEN SEAS!
THE IDEA MAKES ME SICK.
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN YOUR IDEAS.
BUT YOU'LL DO EVERYTHING I SAY, OR I'LL DO MORE THAN KILL LANA LANG.
MUCH MORE.
MAYBE I'VE ALREADY STARTED.

SO THAT'S IT. EVERYBODY CLEAR? HIPHUGGER?
BEAUTIFUL, MAN.
LOWRIDER?
LOWRIDER?
YEAH, YEAH...
BOOTCUT?
SURE, SLIMFIT. I GOTCHA.
IN EIGHT MINUTES, THE GIMBEAUX DEPARTMENT STORE CLERKS WILL OPEN THEIR TILLS TO DEPOSIT TODAY'S TAKE IN THE SAFE.
OUR JOB IS TO INTERCEPT THE LONG GREEN AND RENDEZVOUS WITH THE BOSS AT THE SPECIFIED LOCATION.
HE GUARANTEED US THAT SUPERMAN WOULD BE OUT OF TOWN BY NOW.
OR WHAT? WE GET OUR MONEY BACK?
YOU CAN'T TRUST THAT FREAKIN' JOKER--
JAM IT, LOWRIDER.
DON'T EVER CALL HIM THAT.
YOU'LL DO EVERYTHING BY THE BOOK ON THIS ONE. THIS JOB HAS TO GO PERFECT.
JEWELRY

IT'S NOT... PRECISELY RIGHT.
I'M TRYING TO CREATE A NEW ME. A MORE ADVENTUROUS LOIS LANE.
SHOW ME SOMETHING ELSE.
THE DOOR, PERHAPS?
HEY!
WH--?
HEY, MS. LANE! YOU DON'T NEED TO CHANGE YOUR LOOK TO GET NOTICED!
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL NATURALLY!
WHAT--?
IS THIS SOME KIND OF STUNT? WHERE'S THE HIDDEN CAMERA?
NO CAMERA--
--AND I'M NOT ALLEN FUNT!
JIMMY OLSEN!

Imagine you're Batman™ and you've been thrown into a world of broken bones and twisted minds.

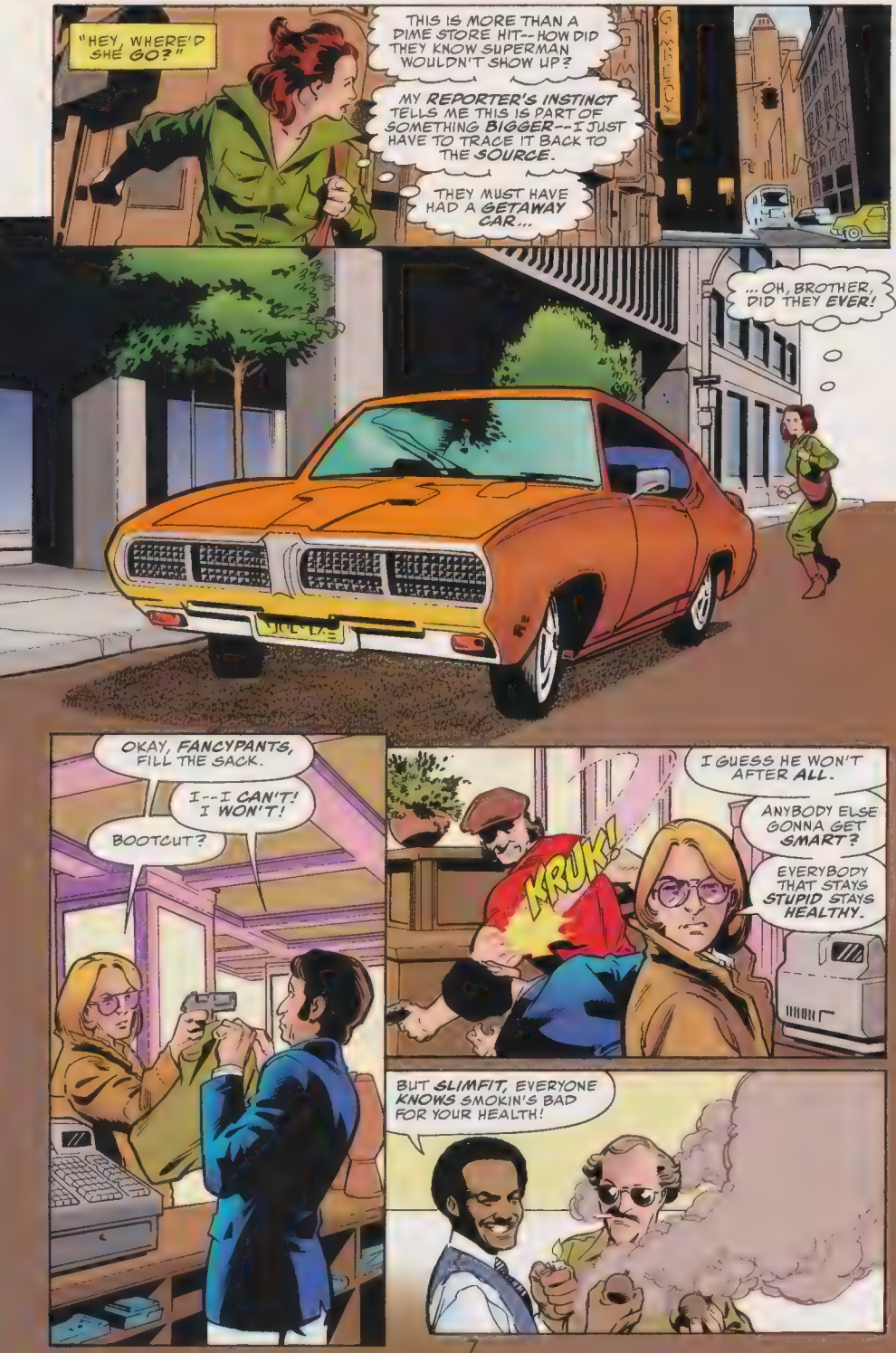
LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT™

JIMMY, YOU PEST! CAN'T YOU SEE I'M BUSY?
WHOA, MS. LANE! I WAS JUST HAVING FUN!
WITH THIS MICROPHONE, I CAN THROW MY VOICE!
CHECK IT OUT! I MADE IT MYSELF!
IT HAS ALL KINDS OF NEAT FEATURES! VOICE PITCH MODULATION, FREQUENCY VARIABLE ADJUST, EVEN MICRO-CASSETTE RECORDING!
IT'S, uh, RIGHT ON, JIMMY.
HERE-- TAKE IT! YOU CAN USE IT FOR INTERVIEWS! BESIDES, I NEED THE SPACE. I'M BUILDING A COMPUTER!
THANKS.
YOU KNOW, WE HAVE COMPUTERS, JIMMY!
OH, SURE. THE SIZE OF A ROOM!
I'M WORKING ON ONE THAT'S SMALLER THAN A DICTIONARY, BUT STORES THE INFORMATION FROM A HUNDRED ENCYCLOPEDIAS!
DREAM ON, OLSEN! LIKE WE'LL LIVE TO SEE THE DAY--

DC bullet logo, Batman and all related indicia are trademarks of DC Comics.

© 1996 Hasbro, Inc.

EVERYBODY BE COOL--THIS IS A ROBBERY!
LEAVE THE ALARMS--AND DON'T COUNT ON SUPERMAN--HE'S BUSY!
YOU--BABYDOLL! OPEN THE TILL, DARLING. LET'S SEE A LITTLE GREEN!
SIR--PLEASE!
WE DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE--IT'S JUST--
--WOULDN'T YOU BE BETTER OFF ROBBING A BANK?
WE DON'T LIKE BANKS! BANKS HAVE GUARDS!
WITH GUNS!
WE DON'T LIKE GUNS!
Y-YOU HEARD HIM, PEOPLE... A-ANYTHING THEY WANT...
G-GOSH, MS. LANE! THEY'VE GOT US OVER A BARREL, ALL RIGHT! WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?


"HEY, WHERE'D SHE GO?"
THIS IS MORE THAN A DIME STORE HIT--HOW DID THEY KNOW SUPERMAN WOULDN'T SHOW UP?
MY REPORTER'S INSTINCT TELLS ME THIS IS PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER--I JUST HAVE TO TRACE IT BACK TO THE SOURCE.
THEY MUST HAVE HAD A GETAWAY CAR...
...OH, BROTHER, DID THEY EVER!
OKAY, FANCYPANTS, FILL THE SACK.
I--I CAN'T! I WON'T!
BOOTCUT?
KRUK!
I GUESS HE WON'T AFTER ALL.
ANYBODY ELSE GONNA GET SMART?
EVERYBODY THAT STAYS STUPID STAYS HEALTHY.
BUT SLIMFIT, EVERYONE KNOWS SMOKIN'S BAD FOR YOUR HEALTH!

ONE
ANYBODY FOLLOWING US?
I DON'T LIKE TO BE FOLLOWED.
WE'RE CLEAN, MAN!
GOOD.
I DON'T WANT MY RECORD TARNISHED.
SKREEEECH!
COOL IT! AIN'T NOBODY ON OUR TAIL.
PICKING THE TRUNK LOCK WAS A SNAP. AND A STRATEGICALLY-PLACED CHEWING GUM WRAPPER ENSURES I CAN ESCAPE--
--I JUST HOPE THEY TAKE ME TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS, AND TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED TO SUPERMAN.
GTO

WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU, SUPERMAN?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE MORE FASTIDIOUS.
EVEN FROM HERE, I CAN SEE YOU MISSED A SPOT.
ALL RIGHT, THAT'S ENOUGH. YOU'RE STARTING TO BORE ME. BRING IT HERE, WOULD YOU?
HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO PERFORM THESE RIDICULOUS TASKS, PRANKSTER?
RIDICULOUS?
ABSURD, MAYBE. NEVER RIDICULOUS.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, DEAR LANA? DID HE DO A GOOD JOB? I BET HE COULD POLISH THE CHROME OFF A BATTLESHIP!
SUPERMAN, PLEASE...
I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT, SWEET. IT'S TIME.
TIME TO JOIN OUR HANDS IN MATRIMONY!
...PLEASE DO SOMETHING!

THE BOSS TOOK CARE OF EVERYTHING.
A REMOTE IN THE DASH OPENS A DOCKSIDE WAREHOUSE...
...AND WE MOVE ON TO PART TWO.
THAT'S WHAT I CALL TRANS-PORTATION.
PILE IN. WE MEET HIM IN UNDER AN HOUR.
CLOSER, SUPERMAN. I WON'T BITE.
NOT ANYMORE.
I LEARNED MY LESSON LAST TIME.
COME ON, SMILE. THIS IS A HAPPY OCCASION.
AH, I SEE. IT'S WELL KNOWN HOW OFTEN YOU'VE SAVED MS. LANG. SHE'S LIKE A... SISTER TO YOU, ISN'T SHE?
WELL, YOU'RE NOT LOSING LANA LANG, YOU'RE GAINING ME!
THIS IS A SHAM, PRANKSTER! I CAN'T LEGALLY MARRY ANYONE!
WHY DON'T YOU CUT TO THE CHASE? WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO GAIN?
OH...
NOTHING BUT AIR, I SUPPOSE.

A ▶ FOLDING A TO B CAN MAKE YOU FEEL GOOD. ◀ B

TRYING TO DETERMINE IF THEY WERE SEPARATED AT BIRTH, OR IF IT WAS JUST MERELY DESTINY, OUR PEACH FRIEND SETS SAIL TO FIND HIS SOULMATE STRAWBERRY QUENCHING HIS THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE, MAKING LIFE BETTER.

WE JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE HAVING FUN AND HOPEFULLY WE MAKE YOU FEEL GOOD!

A ▶ ◀ B

HEY, SLIMFIT, HOW DO WE KNOW WHEN TO CONGREGATE WITH THE BIG MAN?
HIS SHIP'S WIRED FOR SOUND, HIP-HUGGER.
WUP WUP
WUP WUP
WUP WUP
WHEN WE GET IN RANGE, WE'LL BE ABLE TO MONITOR HIS BROADCAST FREQUENCY.
WHEN WE HEAR THE CODE PHRASE, WE MOVE.
COOL. BUT WHY DON'T WE JUST GET HIM NOW?
'COS SUPERMAN'S ON BOARD! WE HAVE TO STAY OUT OF SIGHT-- KEEP HIM FROM SUSPECTING!
DARN IT! IF ONLY I COULD RUIN IT FOR THEM--
THE CODE PHRASE MEANS THE PRANKSTER'S CLEAR, AND IT'S OPEN SEASON ON SUPES!
--UNLESS--
--JIMMY'S MICROPHONE! BLESS THE LITTLE IDIOT, HE LABELED EVERYTHING!
I COULD ALTER MY VOICE, AND MAKE IT SOUND LIKE IT CAME FROM THE RADIO!
FREQ
WHAT ARE WE LISTENING FOR, ANYWAY?
"I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU MAN AND WIFE."

THAT'S RIGHT. DOWN HERE. DON'T GET ANY FUNNY IDEAS.
THAT'S STRICTLY MY TERRITORY.
READ FROM THIS. IT'S RIGHT UP YOUR ALLEY.
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO STOP THIS, PRANKSTER?
SHOULD BE IN RANGE NOW. I'LL TUNE IN.
CLAK
:KKSCHCCH: --NOW PRONOUNCE YOU--
:SKCH: --HUSBAND AND WIFE. :KKCCH:
VHF · AM
NUTS! WE'RE LATE! FLOOR IT, LOWRIDER! WE'VE GOT TO MOVE IN, FAST!
DIDN'T YOU SAY IT WAS GONNA BE "MAN AND WIFE"?
SHUT UP, BOOTCUT! PRIME THOSE MISSILES!
SUPERMAN'S GETTING A RECEPTION HE WON'T FORGET!

©Mars, Incorporated 1998. ©1998 Sega.

WE'RE GIVING AWAY

100,000 SPECIAL EDITION

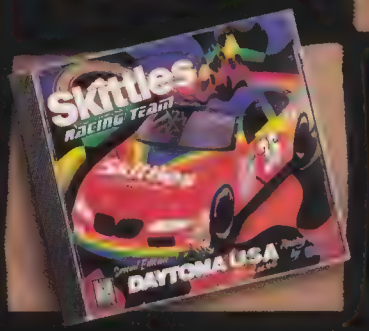
DAYTONA USA DELUXE

PC RACING GAMES.

AFTER ALL, THE OBJECT

OF RACING IS TO WIN,

ISN'T IT?



EAT SKITTLES® BITE SIZE CANDIES. FIND THE GAME PIECE. WIN THE GAME.

Plus, you could even win other cool prizes like a home computer system or a DAYTONA USA™ Special Edition Arcade Unit. Just see official rules for details. And if you're not an instant winner, send $3.99 with proofs of purchase* and you'll get the Sega™ game anyway. Hey, who says winning Daytona isn't easy?

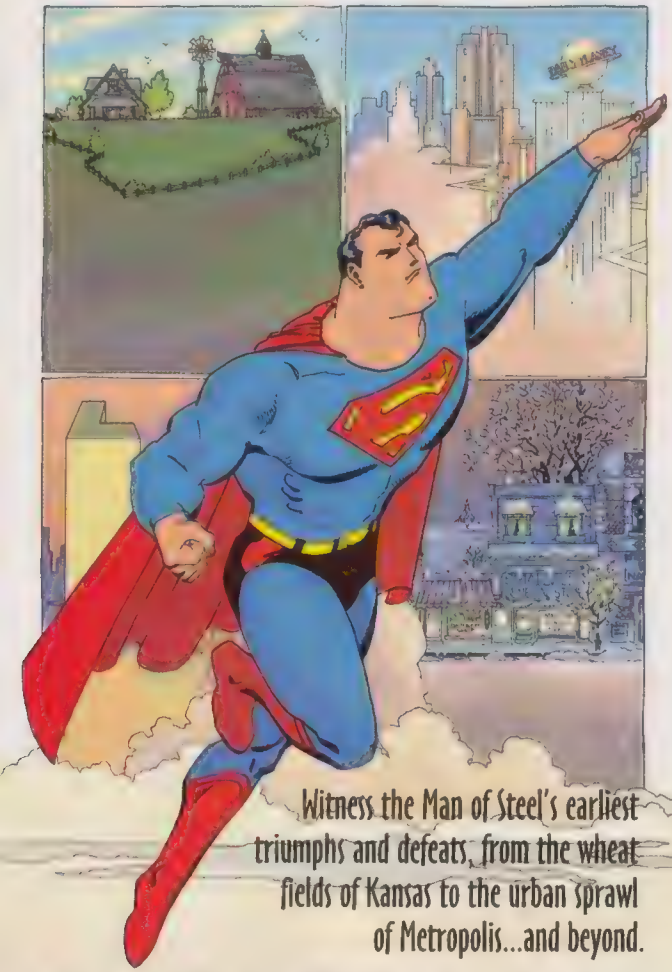
TASTE THE RAINBOW

DAYTONA USA is a registered trademark of [illegible] Computer [illegible] licensed from Daytona Properties.

[illegible] for illustration purposes only. Actual prize may vary. See [illegible] for official rules.

*See specially marked packages for details.

Even the most powerful man alive is still just a man.



Witness the Man of Steel's earliest triumphs and defeats, from the wheat fields of Kansas to the urban sprawl of Metropolis...and beyond.

SUPERMAN FOR ALL SEASONS

Written by JEPH LOEB • Illustrated by TIM SALE
Colored by BJARNE HANSEN

Four groundbreaking 48-page Prestige issues beginning in July.

FOR THE NEAREST COMICS SHOP, CALL 1-888-COMIC BOOK

® DC COMICS ©1998 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

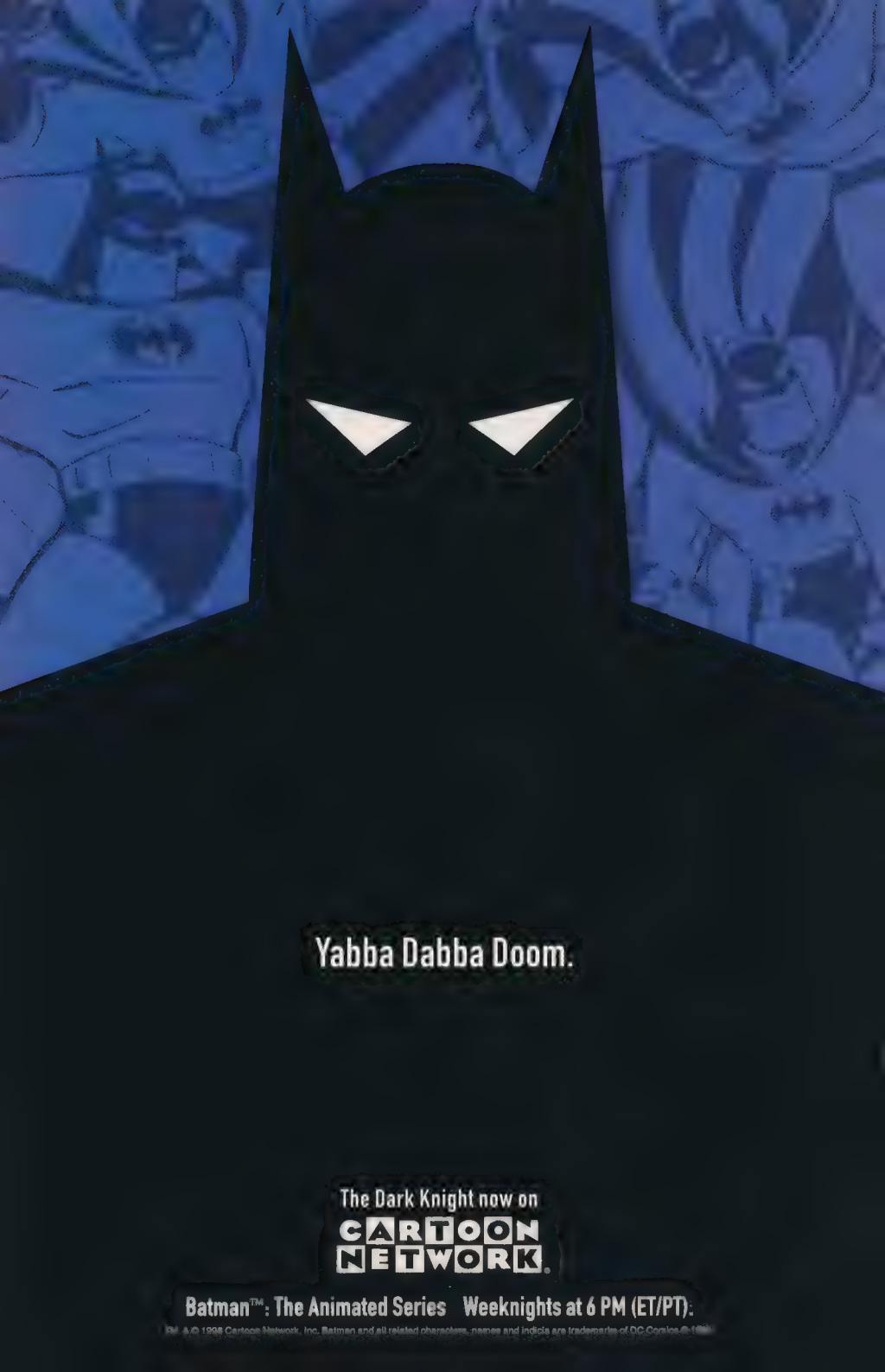
Skittles
BITE SIZE CANDIES

DAYTONA USA® DELUXE RACING GAME CONTEST

OFFICIAL RULES 1. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY: For a free game piece and Official Rules, while supply lasts, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope (WA & VT residents may omit return postage) to: SKITTLES® Brand Game Piece, Dept. A, P.O. Box 3564, St. Cloud, MN 56397-3564. Requests must be received by 5/31/99. Limit one request per envelope per day. Game ends 6/30/99. **2. HOW TO PLAY:** Game pieces appear inside/on specially-marked packs of SKITTLES® Bite Size Candies. If game piece reads "Instant Winner", you win prize indicated. **3. PRIZES/APPROXIMATE ODDS:** (1) Grand Prize: a Daytona USA™ Special Edition Arcade Unit/1:130,000,000 (ARV $7,500); (30) First Prizes: a Multimedia Home Computer System with a SKITTLES® Brand Special Edition Daytona USA™ Deluxe PC CD Racing Game by SEGA® (1 track version)*/1:4,333,333 (ARV $1,500), 100,000 Second Prizes: a SKITTLES® Brand Special Edition Daytona USA™ Deluxe PC CD Racing Game by SEGA® (1 track version)*/1:1,300 (ARV $10.00). **4. PRIZE CLAIMS:** To claim prize, make copy of game piece and mail original game piece with 3" x 5" card on which you have printed your name/age/address/phone # to: SKITTLES® Brand Game Winner, P.O. Box 3526, St. Cloud, MN 56397-3526. Grand/First Prize claims must be sent via registered mail, return receipt requested. Claims must be received by 6/30/99. Proof of mailing doesn't constitute proof of delivery. Allow 8-10 weeks for prize delivery. Grand/First Prize winners must provide Social Security number and sign affidavit of eligibility/release which must be returned within 14 days after mailing or prize may be forfeited. If Grand/First Prize won by minor, it will be awarded in name of parent/legal guardian. Unclaimed First/Second Prizes will not be awarded. **5. SECOND CHANCE DRAWING:** If Grand Prize remains unclaimed by 6/30/99, it will be awarded on or about 7/31/99 in drawing from eligible entries received. To enter Second Chance Drawing, print name/age/address/phone # on 3" x 5" card and send to: SKITTLES® Brand Drawing, P.O. Box 3548, St. Cloud, MN 56397-3548. Entries must be received by 7/15/99. Limit one entry/envelope/day. Odds of winning depend on number of eligible entries received. No mechanically reproduced entries will be accepted. Second chance winner, if any, will be notified by mail on or about 7/31/99. **6. TERMS & CONDITIONS:** Game open to individual residents of U.S., its territories, Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands, except employees of M&M/MARS, its affiliates, agencies, judging organization and immediate families of each. Offer void where prohibited by law; subject to applicable federal, state, and local taxes/regulations. Taxes/fees are the sole responsibility of winner. Game pieces/prizes not transferable, no prize substitutions except by Sponsor who may substitute prizes of equal/greater value. Winners consent to use of name and/or likeness for advertising/publicity purposes without additional compensation to extent permitted by law. Sponsor responsible for prize delivery only; not responsible for prize utility, quality or otherwise. Sponsor/judges not responsible for late, lost, damaged, illegible, incomplete, postage due or misdirected entries, prize claims or mail. Claims subject to verification of eligibility by judges. Decisions of judges are final and binding. Game pieces received defaced/mutilated/tampered with/altered in any way/with printing errors/not obtained through legitimate channels will be disqualified by judges. No more than stated number of prizes will be awarded. In unlikely event winning game pieces for any prize are distributed in numbers greater than number stated above for such prize, stated number of winners will be selected in random drawing from among all qualified entries. **7. WINNERS' LIST:** For list of Grand/First Prize winners, send self-addressed, stamped envelope to: SKITTLES® Brand Game Winners, Dept. D, P.O. Box 3508, St. Cloud, MN 56397-3508; request must be received by 8/15/99; list will be sent after game ends. *(Requires PENTIUM® Processor 90 MHz & WINDOWS® 95.) PENTIUM® is a Registered Trademark of Intel Corporation. WINDOWS® 95 is a Registered Trademark of Microsoft Corporation.

WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY, TO BEAR WITNESS--
--WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
WHAT SOUND? STOP THE STALLING! I DON'T HEAR--
--ANY--
NO! NO! YOU IMBECILES!
IT'S TOO SOON!
"BOOTCUT, LOCK TARGET."
"TARGET LOCKED."
"FIRE."

AHHH!
SUPERMAN! SAVE ME-- ah, US!
I MEAN, DO SOMETHING!
STILL DON'T GET IT, DO YOU, PRANKSTER?
PRUNK
THE ONLY REASON I'M HERE IS TO KEEP MS. LANG FROM HARM.
BUT THAT WAS NEVER YOUR INTENT, WAS IT?
I'VE GOT TO ADMIT, YOU'VE KEPT ME GUESSING--
--NOW IT'S TIME TO TURN THIS PRANK ON ITS HEAD.
COME OUT, COME OUT, WHOEVER YOU ARE...



TM & © 1998 Cartoon Network, Inc. Batman and all related characters, names and indicia are trademarks of DC Comics © 19

YAAAH!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, SUPERFREAK!
TAKE IT EASY, SON. YOU AND WHAT ARMY?
ME AN'--
--HEY!
WHO COULDA DONE THA--?!
TUNK!
GERONIMO!
LOIS--?!
AAOW!
WHAT'S THIS?

A COMELY COMMANDO?
A WAIF IN CHIC CLOTHING?
Ah! I KNOW! ANOTHER HOSTAGE!
uunhhh...
WHUP! WHUP! WHUP!
THAT'S O FOR 2, PRANKSTER!
WHAT? SUPERMAN, STOP THAT THIS INSTANT!
SUPERMAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
OH. THANKS.
POIT!
TRICKY THINKING, HERO! BUT I STILL HAVE VICTORY IN MY GRASP!
YEEOWCH!

WHY, LOOMIS?
... NATURALLY, I'D HOPED FOR A LIFE OF EASE ON THE CANARY ISLANDS WITH A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN AND A MILLION DOLLAR STORY TO SELL...
... BUT IN THE END, THE JOURNEY IS THE REWARD.
I DID IT FOR FUN, STUPID!
IT WILL BE A SAD DAY IN AMERICA WHEN PEOPLE PUT FUN BEFORE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY.
WHY THE ELABORATE DECEPTION? WHY THE MANEUVERS, THE GAMES? WHAT DID YOU WANT?
WANT? Ah, SUPERMAN, YOU POOR FOOL. THAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US...
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE, MS. LANE...
...BUT THAT STUNT WAS FOOLHARDY TO SAY THE LEAST. YOU'RE LUCKY NOTHING'S BROKEN.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD EXAMINE ME, TOO, SUPERMAN. SAY, EIGHT O'CLOCK? MY PLACE?
LET'S... JUST GET BACK TO METROPOLIS FIRST, SHALL WE?

KINDA QUIET SINCE TH' VON PRATT SAILED WIDDOUT 'ER CREW, LIKE.
SHE WAS A BEAUT', THAT 'UN.
AYE. I'LL BE JIGGERED 'FORE SEEIN' THE LIKES O' THET FOINE SHIP AGIN.
MOST LIKE SHE'S SMASHED BY NOW, OR...
...OR MAYBE...
...SHE AIN'T!
VON PRATT
I'M SURE OF IT, LOIS. SUPERMAN DIGS ME.
I MEAN, HE'S A FOX, BUT THE HUMILIATION HE SUFFERED--JUST FOR ME--WENT BEYOND TRUTH AND JUSTICE.
THAT'S DEVOTION.
BUT...I RISKED MY LIFE, TOO...DOESN'T THAT COUNT FOR SOMETHING?
SUPERMAN DOESN'T NEED COMPETITION, DEAR. HE NEEDS SOME FEMININE AFFECTION.
GIRLS!

CRUNCH IT WHILE YOU CAN!
CAP'N CRUNCH'S
OOPS! ALL BERRIES
QUAKER
"SPECIALLY" MADE FOR KIDS!!
OOPS! ALL BERRIES IS BACK FOR A SHORT TIME ONLY.
IT'S THAT SWEET CRANKIN' CRUNCH OF 100% CRUNCHBERRIES PLUS PURPLE & BLUE BUT YOU HAVE TO GET IT BEFORE IT'S GONE!

WATCH this space

NUMBER 98-13

When WONDER WOMAN writer and artist **John Byrne** heard **Kevin Dooley** was going to be working on the Looney Tunes and Cartoon Network books (with newly promoted editor **Dana Kurtin**—congrats!), John wondered if Kevin would be giving a certain wascally wabbit the same treatment he'd given GREEN LANTERN, which Kevin also edits. JB asked his editor **Paul Kupperberg** if Bugs'd be going mad, killing the other WB characters and become...Paradoc! (We can see it now: Elmer Fudd as a Guardian approaching a young man in an alley and saying, "Here, Kyle Wayner. Take dis wing and do a wot of good wid it. Huh-huh-huh-huh!")

THE LAND WAAAY DOWN UNDER: When **Mark Waid**, writer of FLASH, *Captain America* and the current JLA story arc, visited the DC offices, he recounted his recent trip to the land of Kangaroos and Koalas. No, not the Bronx... Australia! Mark went there with fellow writers **Devin K. Grayson** and **Kurt Busiek**, writer of *Astro City*, *Avengers* and *Iron Man*, and Kurt's wife, **Ann**. Highlight of the trip, Mark said, was Black Water Rafting. That's where you get into a wet suit, get handed an inner tube and are thrown 15 feet into a waterway that travels underground! You see stalactites galore and everything is lit by your miner's helmet, which you can switch off from time to time to see a "starry sky" of glowworms! Sometimes you pull yourself along by the ceiling—even to the point of being totally submerged! Mark also did some parasailing, jetskiing and—the ever-fun to say—lugeing, while there. DC's master scheduler **Bob Greenberger** asked Mark if he hit the Speed Force. Mark laughed and then he was gone! We'll never get used to him doing that!

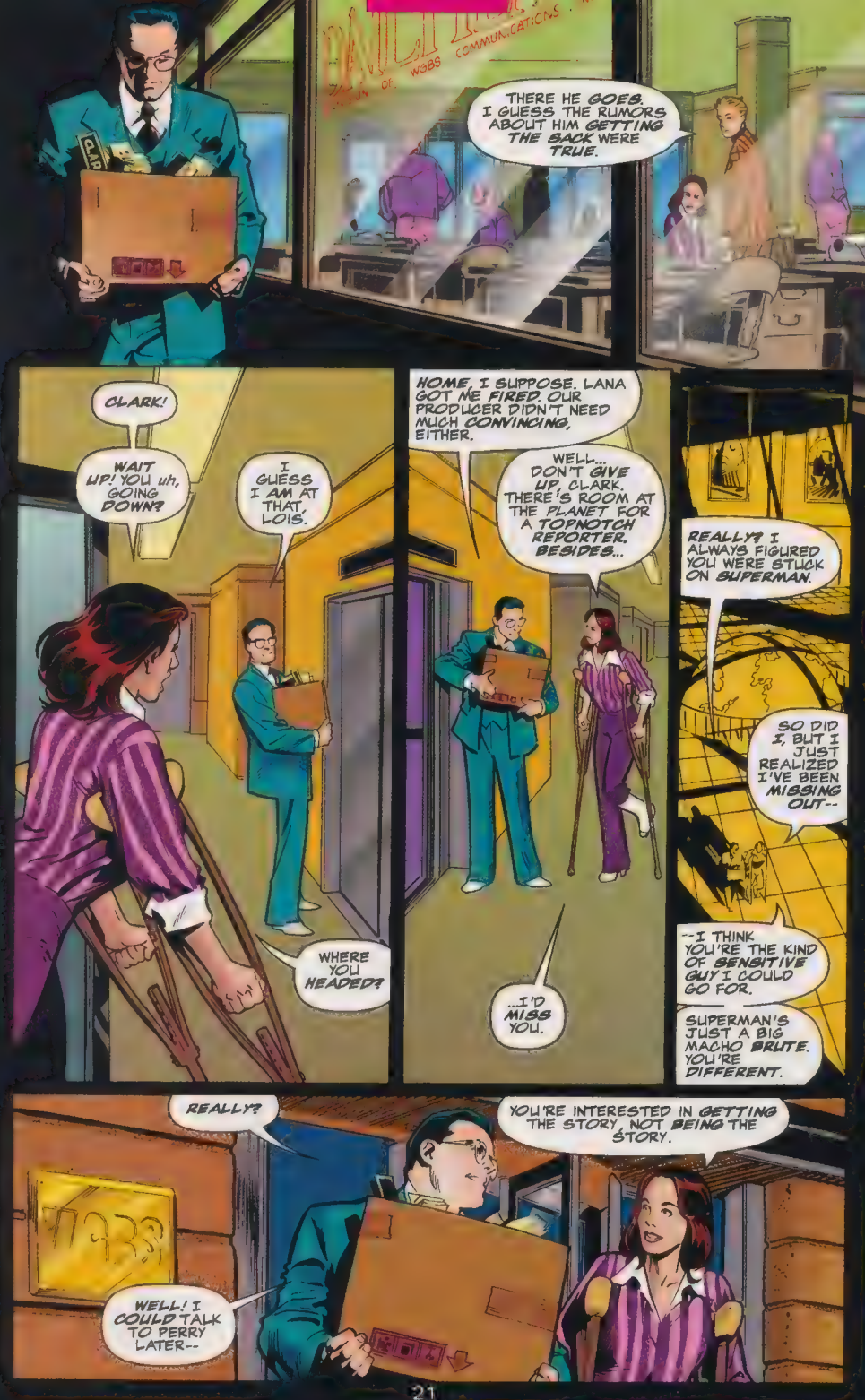
JULIENNE BERGANZA? In a semi-spontaneous "Bring Your Daughter To Work Day," **Ali Morales**, assistant editor on THE CREEPER and the SECRET FILES books, graced us with her daughter **Julienne**'s presence, and **Eddie Berganza**, editor of TEEN TITANS, RESURRECTION MAN, and CHASE, had his daughter **Kimi** in as his special helper. Eddie also edits the Tangent line—where we take the names of some of DC's most famous characters and give them a new look from the ground up. Don't worry, though, both daughters went home with their original names and their established origin.

RELATIVELY BROADWAY or...1776 and 7/8: First there was **Monica Richards**, wife of **Harvey** (the guy who's in charge of making sure all of our packages go out every day)—she's in the musical "Ragtime." Now, there's **Dan Marcus**, uncle of DC's **Emily Marcus** (she oversees all our cool retail products, like the Wonder Woman poster by **Steve Rude** and all the GREEN LANTERN stuff due out this month) playing **Robert Livingston**, one of the members of the Continental Congress in the Broadway production of "1776." The aforementioned Kevin Dooley (who was being taken to the show—one of his faves—for his b'day by ex-DCer **Maura Healy**) ran into **Brenda Manzanedo** (who produces all the stuff that comic shop retailers get to promote our books)—she was there with hubby **Dennis** and pointed out the family connection. Emily says the whole family is very proud of "Uncle Dan." "He's always been a singer and actor," niece Emily said, noting that he's been in a lot of off-Broadway productions. Emily saw "1776" in previews when **Brent Spiner** was playing the role of **John Adams**. Spiner played Data on "Star Trek: The Next Generation" of which Emily is a fan.

DC

HEY! THE NEWS IS ALL OVER TOWN! YOU TWO ARE HEROES!
AMAZING! THIS IS SOME HAPPENING, ALL RIGHT! I CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR IT ALL! LANA, WHY DON'T YOU START?
CLARK--
--I'D BE HAPPY TO!
SLAP!
LANA! WHAT--?!
YOU COWARD! IF YOU HAD BEEN WHERE YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE TODAY, NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE HAPPENED!
IF MEMORY SERVES, THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE DUCKED OUT OF A CRISIS SITUATION! BUT LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING, MR. KENT--
--IT'S GOING TO BE THE LAST!
WHAT DO YOU THINK SHE MEANT BY THAT, CLARK?
I'M NOT SURE, BUT IT CAN'T BE GOOD.
CAN I GET YOU TO A DOCTOR?
I WAS JUST GOING TO ASK YOU...

GEE, THAT'S ROUGH, MS. LANE. BUT MY PREDICTO-HELMET MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT THAT.
I HAVEN'T TRIED IT OUT ON A HUMAN SUBJECT YET-- CARE TO GIVE YOUR FORTUNE A WHIRL?
:sigh: OKAY, JIMMY. SHOOT.
WGBS
DOC SAYS IT'S JUST A BAD SPRAIN. THE CAST CAN COME OFF IN A FEW DAYS.
THE BIGGER BUBBLER
NO, WAIT. THERE'S A BUG IN THE HELMET!
FAULTY PROGRAMMING, JIMMY?
I SEE...A TALL DARK STRANGER.
NO, MS. LANE! IT'S A REAL BUG! GET THIS OFF ME, PLEASE!
OKAY, OKAY! BEND OVER...
...JIMMY, I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO DO, BUT I'M OKAY...
...I'M JUST GETTING OVER THE MAN OF MY DREAMS.
MR. KENT?
WHAT?


THERE HE GOES. I GUESS THE RUMORS ABOUT HIM GETTING THE SACK WERE TRUE.
CLARK!
WAIT UP! YOU uh, GOING DOWN?
I GUESS I AM AT THAT, LOIS.
WHERE YOU HEADED?
HOME, I SUPPOSE. LANA GOT ME FIRED. OUR PRODUCER DIDN'T NEED MUCH CONVINCING, EITHER.
WELL... DON'T GIVE UP, CLARK. THERE'S ROOM AT THE PLANET FOR A TOPNOTCH REPORTER. BESIDES...
...I'D MISS YOU.
REALLY? I ALWAYS FIGURED YOU WERE STUCK ON SUPERMAN.
SO DID I, BUT I JUST REALIZED I'VE BEEN MISSING OUT--
--I THINK YOU'RE THE KIND OF SENSITIVE GUY I COULD GO FOR.
SUPERMAN'S JUST A BIG MACHO BRUTE. YOU'RE DIFFERENT.
REALLY?
YOU'RE INTERESTED IN GETTING THE STORY, NOT BEING THE STORY.
WELL! I COULD TALK TO PERRY LATER--

--IF YOU WOULDN'T MIND GETTING SOME LUNCH FIRST.
SURE, WHY NOT?
LOOKS LIKE EVERYTHING'S GOING TO WORK OUT RIGHT AFTER ALL--
NO! NO!
IT IS NOT RIGHT. IT IS WRONG.
EVERYTHING IS WRONG. CAN'T YOU TELL?
WHO?
BONNNG! BONNNG!
THE CLOCK TOWER? WHAT GIVES? IT'S ONLY TWO TWENTY-TWO!
THIS IS CREEPY!
SO'S THIS! THAT LITTLE GIRL JUST VANISHED!
DO YOU KNOW WHO SHE WAS?
I DIDN'T THINK SO-- BUT I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER.
AND I'M SURE I'LL FIND OUT-- SOONER THAN I EXPECT!

NOT THE END...

LEGION

RE:

ACTION COMICS #741

Dear Superfolk:

OK, I just read ACTION COMICS #741. Thank you for hiring Stuart Immonen to do this book. I've been a huge fan of his since his LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES days, and it's great to see him doing so well.

Now for the issue at hand... Wow! You sure know how to tell a story. From the cover until I read the final next-issue box, I loved this issue. We have the Legion (the best super-hero team in comics, and shame on anyone who's not reading it) as guest stars, and they actually have a significant role in this issue. It was wonderful seeing Stuart working his magic with the LSH again. Thank you.

As for the story, it's a crossover, but it's handled well. I didn't need to read the previous issue of LSH to know what was going on (which I had, anyway). Hmm...what's also interesting, though, is the fact that the Legion has never heard of Luthor, as Superman said at the end. At least if there is a Metropolis without Luthor someday, everything is worth it.

Then we have the subplots, which to me are the strongest parts of the book right now. Let's start with the first one, with Lex telling his daughter the story—interesting that he sees himself as the rooster. Jimmy's travels with Misa, Ashbury and Scorn are also proving interesting. Could there possibly be a romance blossoming between Misa and Jimmy? I hope so.

As for a subplot some people may have missed, Clark and Lois are talking at each other, but not to each other at the beginning of the book. Could this mean the happy couple may soon have their first argument?

Well, thanks for the issue. Keep up the great work, both here and in the Legion books.

JAMES SCHEE
(JWSCHEE@AOL.COM)
SILSBEE, TEXAS

These kinds of crossovers allow Legion fans and Super-fans to come together and try books they haven't read before, James, and we're glad you're enjoying both. We hope we've attracted more Super-readers to the Legion books while drawing in a few more Legion fans to the Super-titles.

Hey, Super-Team:

This last Superman story with the Legion (ACTION #741) was pretty good. Unlike Batman, Superman works well with other heroes. So, how about changing one of the Superman titles into a team-up book? If not, I'd like to see Supes team up with Zatanna, Deadman, Flash and Nightwing. I'm disappointed with the way you got rid of the Contessa, but I like Luthor's having a more active role in these pages. The best part of this issue was the story Luthor told his daughter.

By the way, when is Mr. Z coming back to these pages?

DOUD OHMER
COVINGTON, KY

Mr. Z could come back any time, Doud. We just want to make sure we've got the right story to put him in.

A team-up book, huh? You do realize, of course, that when Superman was revamped by John Byrne back in the eighties, ACTION COMICS became a team-up book that paired the Man of Steel with DC's greatest heroes. The concept remained up till issue #600, with the following issue becoming ACTION COMICS WEEKLY, featuring several heroes in stories. When Superman retook the solo spot in ACTION #643, it was decided to leave the team-up idea behind. Of course, that doesn't mean we'd mind doing team-ups in these pages again...

Dear Editors:

ACTION COMICS #741 continued the recent trend of high quality in the Super-books. In all honesty, the past six months in the Super-titles have been anything but exciting. It seemed that ever since Supes got his new powers, all he was doing was taking out second-string losers while figuring out how to use his new powers. Now, that was all right for a while, but it began to grate on me pretty quickly.

Recently, however, there has been an enormous upswing in the quality of the books, starting specifically in MAN OF STEEL #75. The only thing I could find to complain about is the fact that the SUPERMAN SECRET FILES shipped *before* SUPERMAN #131, which really took all the suspense out of an otherwise excellent story.

Now to the story at hand. To this point, Stuart Immonen's writing has been shaky at best. This issue, though, was without a doubt his best yet. The way he paralleled "A Cautionary Tale" with the Luthor/Superman relationship was wonderful (even though he did make this comparison too obvious at the

DC COMICS
1700 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY
10019

end of the story, when Lex told Lena he'd protect her from the fox). His pencilling wasn't half-bad, either. And since he never seems to be recognized, Glenn Whitmore did a wonderful job coloring the issue (especially on the "Cautionary Tale" segments).

All in all, the past month has been great. I'm looking forward to SUPERMAN RED/SUPERMAN BLUE.

PAT GAUTHIER
(HANDSOMEPAT@ALBEDO.NET)
GUELPH, ONTARIO
CANADA

*We'll agree with you on just about all counts, Pat—the Super-books **have** been on a real good roll lately (even better than usual), and we're promising to keep it going in the months to come. We also agree that issue #741 was Stuart's best issue—up until the SUPERMAN VILLAINS SECRET FILES, anyway, which should still be on sale now. It's Stuart's best story ever, and he helps the bad guys give literature a good name! Check it out!*

And speaking of homages...

Dear DC:

I want to thank you for the very clever way you paid a tribute to the great George Reeves, the 1950's TV Superman, on page 5 of ACTION COMICS #741, by mentioning Bessolo Boulevard. For any fans who don't know about this, George Reeves's last name was Bessolo before he changed it when he started acting.

I'm one of the many baby-boomers who grew up watching George Reeves on TV as Superman in the fifties. It's great to see all kinds of tributes to him now after all these years, instead of articles focusing on the sad way he died on June 16, 1959. He deserves to be remembered in a positive way, and watching him and the other fantastic cast members in *The Adventures of Superman* will always be one of the happiest memories of my childhood.

LINDA BILLO
PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Dear People:

Lex Luthor is one cold S.O.B., especially Stuart Immonen's characterization of him in ACTION #741. Imagine being so evil and cold that you would actually have the mother of your child locked up. Hats off to the entire Super-Team for this portrayal of Lex, mixing some of the old mythos (Lena) in with the new.

Since 1986, we have seen a lot of different versions of Lex in these pages. Donald Trumpish Lex, Doctor Doom (metal hand) Lex, Australian-cloned Lex, Dying Lex, and Hero Lex (THE FINAL NIGHT). The improvements made on the character beginning with Byrne, Wolfman and Ordway have been outstanding. One can really believe that his soul has been corrupted because of youth. Lex is somebody who over time learned how to deal with loss and pain through evil and unholy methods. Although rich, powerful and brilliant, Lex is somebody who deep down inside is in pain. Perhaps a story about Lex seeking counseling would be an interesting route to take.

On to other things: I have to say I like the new Superman. I remember when Big Blue premiered, everybody was outraged. Believe it or not, I was not. I had much confidence in the Super-Team due to their past victories.

I do, however, have complaints about the pacing. I've been finding myself bored lately, with "Scorn's Back" and "Hey, Lois, bullets bounce through me, not off me." How about more hints into where these new powers came from? You could all drop little hints throughout the titles. A couple of years ago, during the "Death of Superman" saga, I remember rushing to my local comic-book store to see who these new Supermen were, or how Supes would handle a villain who knows his identity, or Batman guest-starring in a really clever storyline. I have total faith in you guys, and would like to see the Super-Titles returned to their previous glory.

JONATHAN PULINO
MIDDLETOWN, CONN.

If what we've been doing lately hasn't kept you interested, Jonathan, then we don't know what will. We hope you agree. As for Lex seeking counseling, it would work for all of ten seconds before Lex would have the counselor abducted, killed and buried under the foundation of a new building under construction. Howzabout you just accept this month's Baldy award and forget the idea ever came up, huh? It's for your mental—and physical—well-being.

—Mike McAvennie
Would seek a shrink himself
well before ever suggesting
Lex Luthor do so.

COMING ATTRACTIONS:

NEXT WEEK: The greatest find of 1938 continues his Golden Age adventures in MAN OF STEEL #80! This one's got it all! A man of tomorrow! A damsel in distress! Bad ol' Nazis! And Truth, Justice and the American Way, as only Louise Simonson, Jon Bogdanove and Dennis Janke know how to give it to you, all in seven days!

IN TWO WEEKS: The Man of Tomorrow—2999, to be exact—continues his adventures in SUPERMAN #137. Does a world of tomorrow still need him? Heck, yeah, as Dan Jurgens, Paul Ryan and Joe Rubinstein intend to prove in fourteen days! Mebbe we can figure out just what's goin' on, anyway!

IN THREE WEEKS: It's time for the Silver Age ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #560 to continue, as things as we know it—or knew it—are still loopy. Can the classic Man of Steel figure out what's distorting time? Perhaps in twenty-one days, with the help of Karl Kesel, Jerry Ordway, Tom Grummett and Denis Rodier!

IN FOUR WEEKS: It may be the 1970s, but Superman's still in ACTION #747! Perhaps the pieces of the puzzles will start to make sense now, and mebbe we'll learn just who the heck the one kid poppin' up in all the time distortions actually is! Stuart Immonen and José Marzan, Jr. give us another installment of "Polyesteryear" in twenty-eight days! Groovy, ba-bay!

HAVE A COMPUTER? GOT A MODEM?
FREE
DC COMICS ONLINE
STARTER KIT
1-800-203-2600

Where the Prankster's involved, this month's cover's not so hard to piece together. Stuart Immonen, José Marzan, Jr. and Patrick Martin continue to puzzle us with how they just keep getting better and better!

DC COMICS **JENETTE KAHN** President & Editor-in-Chief **PAUL LEVITZ** Executive VP & Publisher
MIKE CARLIN Executive Editor **JOEY CAVALIERI** Editor **MAUREEN McTIGUE** Assistant Editor
RICHARD BRUNING VP — Creative Director **PATRICK CALDON** VP — Finance & Operations
DOROTHY CROUCH VP — Licensed Publishing **TERRI CUNNINGHAM** VP — Managing Editor
JOEL EHRLICH Senior VP — Advertising & Promotions **LILLIAN LASERSON** VP & General Counsel
BOB ROZAKIS Executive Director — Production

JNCO
SHOE: TRANSITION 1 - TECHNICAL BMX LINE
AVAILABLE FALL 1998 ONLY FROM JNCO FOOTING
JNCO TEAM RIDER - TODD "WILD MAN" LYONS
COMING SOON...
FLAMEHEAD
#0
SPECIAL EDITION!
WORLD DOMINATION!
JNCO COMICS!!!
ASK YOUR COMIC RETAILER!

http://www.whymilk.com
Revealing outfits and the undead. What else can't most young guys get enough of? Calcium. But there is a mouth-watering solution. Milk. It can help provide the calcium growing bones need to stay strong. A real must. Especially if you plan on sticking your neck out.
MILK
Where's *your* mustache?™
SARAH MICHELLE GELLAR ©1998 NATIONAL FLUID MILK PROCESSOR PROMOTION BOARD